

MAYOR'S MESSAGE – January 2018

Happy New Year Murray! As we begin a new year, and as I begin my term as your new mayor, I am excited and energized about the future of Murray City! Albert Einstein once said, “Learn from yesterday, live for today, and hope for tomorrow.” I believe that learning from the lessons of the past, both the good and the bad, will help us shape our future in a very positive way.

We will have a number of challenges to face moving forward. The pressures resulting from the explosive growth of the entire region will require careful planning and a delicate balance between the competing interests of high density vs. low density development. We are fortunate that, due to appropriate master planning, we currently have several low density single-family residential developments in planning or construction phase. I am pleased that we will have these new homes available for those looking to live in Murray, but desiring a new single-family home. In addition, the planned expansion of Winchester Estates will provide approximately forty additional housing opportunities in the pre-manufactured home market for seniors. We also are seeing some high-density residential development going up in our TOD's (Transit Oriented Development) areas near the TRAX/Frontrunner stations on Vine Street as well as the Murray North TRAX Station near 4500 South. There are also a number of commercial developments taking place around the city, and 2018 looks to be another good year for quality projects in Murray.

In looking forward, we are on the verge of construction of a new city hall in our downtown redevelopment area, and you can expect to see an invitation in the very near future to a public open house for public comment and input on this exciting project and the surrounding area.

We will also be working on some local and regional issues, including the homelessness crisis, illegal drug activities with its associated petty crime, and rising costs of providing services, just to name a few. I am looking forward to working with other local elected officials, state representatives, and community leaders.

The planned expansion of the Murray Boys and Girls Club will add capacity to the overcrowded youth programs that are provided to the boys and girls in our community. The club can always use donations and volunteers to keep their vital services viable. I firmly believe that the investment in our young people pays dividends well into the future as their individual lives are impacted for the better.

Whether you are a person who makes New Year's resolutions or not, I invite each and every citizen of our city to join with me in resolving to help keep Murray a unique and great place to live, work, and play! I am looking forward to a very good year!